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Grace F. Napolitano
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
32nd District of California

331

June 4, 2019

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Chairman Pai and Secretary Chao:

I am writing with great concern over the decades of mismanagement, wasted taxpayer investment, lack of results in implementing connected vehicle technology, and the lost opportunity of valuable unused spectrum. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) must urgently work together to come up with a strategy, timeline and solutions for addressing the needs of growing WiFi demand while implementing a fully operable transportation safety communications system.

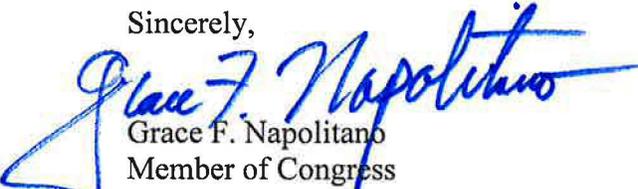
The lack of progress and divergent views on the appropriate auto safety technology is unacceptable. The DOT and FCC should take a leadership role in working with industry to develop an effective interoperable technology that provides auto safety solutions the American public have been waiting for.

The FCC and DOT should also explore ways to use the valuable 5.9 GHz band to meet the growing public demand for WiFi without harming auto safety. WiFi is becoming one of the most important tools Americans use in their daily lives for communication, business development, and safety. With regards to safety, WiFi is used for personal security, home security, business security, and national security. WiFi is used by police departments, fire departments, the federal government and many other significant safety and security services that all Americans rely on. The current lack of spectrum devoted to WiFi is creating congestion and reducing WiFi performance which could harm economic productivity and the vital safety uses of WiFi.

I respectfully request that the DOT and the FCC work with industry stakeholders to come up with solutions for installing an auto safety communications platform quickly while also addressing the growing demand for WiFi use.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

